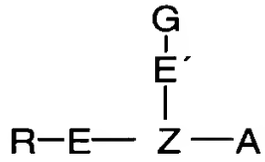
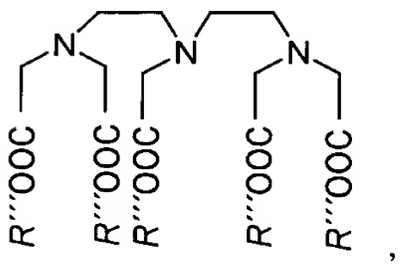
ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a novel labeling reactant of formula (I) suitable for labeling an oligonucleotide



(I), wherein:

R is a temporary protecting group. **A** is either a phosphorylating moiety or a solid support tethered to a bridge point **Z** via a linker arm **E. E´** is a linker arm between **G** and **Z. G** is a bivalent aromatic structure, tethered to two iminodiacetic acid ester groups $N(COOR'''')_2$ or **G** is a structure selected from a group consisting of



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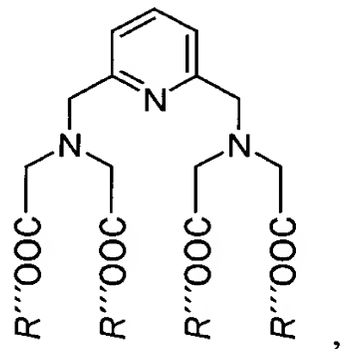

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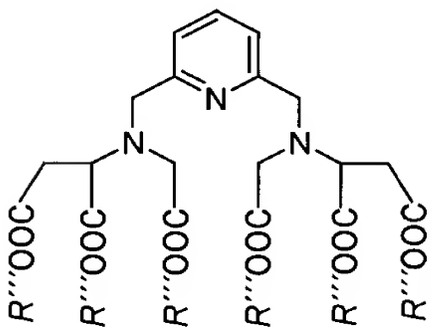

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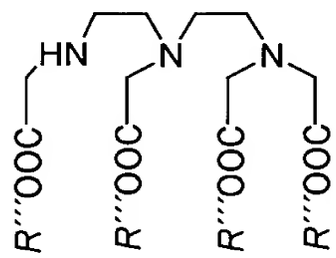

, or

G is a protected functional group. The invention further concerns a method for direct attachment of a conjugate group to an oligonucleotide structure enabling the attachment of a desired number of these groups during chain assembly. The method comprises a Mitsonobu alkylation.